AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1-2. (cancelled)

3. (currently amended) ~~The~~ An apparatus ~~according to claim 2, wherein~~ communicating with a device via a network comprising:

a first processor;

a second processor; and

a network controller receiving a first type of packets and a second type of packets from said network, and selectively sending information in the first type of packets and the second type of packets to said first processor and said second processor, wherein,

said network controller sends information in the first type of packets and the second type of packets to said first processor and said second processor, respectively, if a connection with said device has been established, such that information in said second type of packets is processed exclusively by said second processor,

said network controller sends information in both of the first type of packets and the second type of packets to said

first processor if a connection with said device has not been established, and

said first processor provides said network controller with information for detecting said second type of packets when a connection with said device is established.

4. (currently amended) The apparatus according to claim [[2]] 3, wherein said second type of packets is a group of packets which meet specific conditions, and said first type of packets is a group of packets other than said second type of packets.

5-8. (cancelled)

9. (currently amended) ~~The~~ An apparatus ~~according to claim 7, wherein~~ communicating with a device via a network comprising:

a first processor;

a second processor; and

a network controller receiving a first type of packets and a second type of packets from said network, and selectively sending information in the first type of packets and the second type of packets to said first processor and said second processor, wherein,

said network controller sends information in the first type of packets and the second type of packets to said first processor and said second processor, respectively, if a connection with said device has been established, such that information in said second type of packets is processed exclusively by said second processor,

said network controller includes a detector and a distributor,

said detector determines whether a packet received from said network is the second type of packets, and further determines whether information in the packet is to be sent to said first processor or said second processor,

the distributor sends information in said packet received from said network to one of said first and second processors according to a determination of said detector,

said first processor sends a notification signal to said detector when a connection with said device is established, [[and]]

said detector determines that information in both of ~~said~~ the first type of packets and the second ~~types~~ type of packets are to be sent to said first processor~~, if~~ based on said detector [[has]] not ~~received~~ receiving said notification signal from said first processor, and

said detector determines that information in ~~said~~ the first type of packets and the second ~~types~~ type of packets is to

be sent to said first processor and said second ~~processors~~ processor, respectively, [[if]] conditioned on said detector ~~has received~~ receiving said notification signal from said first processor.

10. (currently amended) The apparatus according to claim 9, wherein said second type of packets is a group of packets which meet specific conditions, and said first type of ~~packet~~ packets is a group of packets other than said second type of packets.

11. (original) The apparatus according to claim 9, wherein said first processor provides said network controller with information for detecting said second type of packets when a connection with said device is established.

12. (currently amended) The apparatus according to claim 11, wherein said network controller receives ~~said~~ the first type of packets and the second ~~types~~ type of packets based on a first protocol, and said second type of packets is further formed in accordance with a second protocol.

13. (currently amended) The apparatus according to claim 12, wherein said distributor includes a first controller

and a second controller corresponding to said first processor and said second ~~processors~~ processor, respectively, and

said first controller and said second ~~controllers~~ controller encapsulate and decapsulate a packet based on said first protocol.

14. (currently amended) The apparatus according to claim 12, said first protocol is ~~TCP/IP~~ transmission control protocol/internet protocol (TCP/IP) and said second protocol is ~~iSCSI~~ internet small computer systems interface (iSCSI) protocol.

15-17. (cancelled)